

Appl. No. 10/707,419
Amdt. dated September 14, 2007
Reply to Office action of June 14, 2007

Amendments to the Drawings:

A replacement sheet is included for Fig.2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet 1 page

REMARKS

Drawing And Specification Amendments

Fig.2 is amended to comply the description of paragraph [0011]. More specifically, Fig.2 is amended to show all compliant bit transitions possible. The missing transactions 5 for bits received being 1's are shown for all the states between point D and C on the bottom row. No new matter is entered.

Paragraph [0011] of the specification is also amended to correct a typo in the bit string after an additional 1 is received. In particular, paragraph [0011] is amended to state, "Node A has only a single path going to node B when a '0' is received. This is because a 10 '0' must be received. If an additional '1' were received, this would mean that the immediately preceding bits were '...101010101010101', which violates the RMTR = 6 constraint." The reason an additional 1 was added to the bit string in paragraph [0011] is because paragraph [0011] states, "If an additional '1' were received". Therefore, an additional one should be included in the following bit string. No new matter is entered.

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Claims 1-5, 9-15, 19-24, 28-34, 38 are rejected under 35 USC 102b as being anticipated by Kitamura (US Patent Number 6,388,588).

The claims are amended to change occurrences of "code word" (with a space) to be "codeword" (without a space) so the claims are consistent in the spelling of this term. No new 20 matter is entered.

Concerning the patentability of currently amended claim 1 with respect to the cited reference of Kitamura, applicant notes that Kitamura does not specify limiting a characteristic of the codewords according to starting bit positions in the codewords. In the Office action of 06/14/2007, the Examiner stated that Figure 5 of Kitamura shows limiting a characteristic of 25 the codeword specified for each starting bit position in the codeword. However, applicant points out that the starting bit positions correspond to the corresponding bit position in the codewords and Kitamura does not specifically teach that any characteristic of the codewords

is limited depending on the starting bit position in the codeword. Figure 5 of Kitamura does not teach the above definition of the starting bit positions of the codewords with respect to the characteristic being limited. For at least this reason, applicant asserts that currently amended claim 1 should not be found anticipated by Kitamura. Similar amendments and arguments

5 also apply to independent claims 11, 20, and 30. Reconsideration of currently amended independent claims 1, 11, 20, and 30 is respectfully requested. If independent claims 1, 11, 20, and 30 are found allowable, so too should their dependent claims for at least the same reasons.

10 New Claims

New claims 39 – 42 are added including the following limitation:

15 “wherein the starting bit positions of the codewords are defined in order of the bits of each codeword, each codeword having a first bit position corresponding to the first bit of the codeword and a last bit position corresponding to the last bit of the codeword.”

No new matter is entered. In particular, applicant points out that such a definition of the starting bit positions is illustrated in Figure 3 and the accompanying description in paragraph [0026] of the specification stating, “According to the present invention, each codeword is divided into bit positions, labeled $P_1P_2P_3\dots P_n$. P_1 is the first bit position of the codeword, P_2 the second, and so on with P_n being the last bit position. By limiting a characteristic of the codeword specified for each starting bit position, error correction is possible and SYNC pattern detection is more accurate.”

20 Concerning the patentability of newly added claims 39-42 with respect to the cited reference of Kitamura, applicant notes that Kitamura does not specify limiting a characteristic of the codewords according to starting bit positions in the codewords as defined by the present invention in claims 39-42. In the Office action of 06/14/2007, the Examiner stated that Figure 5 of Kitamura shows limiting a characteristic of the codeword specified for each starting bit position in the codeword. However, applicant points out that according to the

above definition, the starting bit positions correspond to the corresponding bit portion in the codewords and Kitamura does not specifically teach that any characteristic of the codewords is limited depending on the starting bit position in the codeword. Figure 5 of Kitamura does not teach the above definition of the starting bit positions of the codewords with respect to the 5 characteristic being limited. For at least this reason, applicant asserts that newly added claims 39-42 should not be found anticipated by Kitamura. Consideration of claims 39-42 is respectfully requested.

10 **Allowable Subject Matter – Claims 6-8, 16-18, 25-27, 35-37 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.**

15 Claims 6, 16, 25, and 35 are amended to be written in independent form as was stated being allowable by the Examiner. No new matter is entered. Allowance of claims 6-8, 16-18, 25-27, 35-37 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion:

20 Thus, all pending claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance with respect to the cited art for at least the reasons presented above. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if there are informalities that can be resolved in a phone conversation, or if the Examiner has any ideas or suggestions for further advancing the prosecution of this case.

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Sincerely yours,

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Date: 09.14.2007

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10 Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C. is 12 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 9 PM in Taiwan.)